

93-48

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Federal Communications Commission

FCC MAIL ROOM

I am a grandmother and I am definitely concerned about what my Grandsons see on television. I see so much violence in children even here in our neighborhood.

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May 3, 93

Children's Television
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MM Docket No 93-48

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MAY 10 1993
FCC MAIL ROOM

I protest the terrible
violence of children's TV shows.

It conveys a "mean world" image.

Why can't there be more
educational and "how to"
programs like "how to play the
guitar or drums or flute", "how to
paint", "how to cook", "how to
fish".

We are destroying our children - do
something quickly to change.

Sincerely

Gloria Churchman
139 Seminary
Hill Valley, Ca
94941

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MAY 6, 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM
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Secretary, The FCC;

MAY 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For many years I have been frustrated
and will be with the FCC.

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MAY 10 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

Please do something about
the terrible, immoral shows on
television. A mind is a terrible
thing to waste and this is what
the networks are doing by offering
these trashy shows. It's Un-American.
What are they trying to do to
the country?

Television can be so entertaining
There is so much to learn and be

A mother of ~~three~~ and
grandmother of five.

Mrs. Arthur
Hasson

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5/1/93
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Children's Television
mm Docket # 93-48
Secretary
FCC
Rm 222
1919 m St. NW
Wash DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYTeri Shay
4819 Springfield Ave
Philadelphia PA
5/5/93 19143Children's T.V.
Secretary
Federal Communications
Commission

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL MAY 10 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

I'm writing to you because I think there is far too much violence on children's television. It's been shown, many times, by many different studies, that television violence has a negative impact on kids, causing them to become more violent and aggressive. To see violence as the best, or even the only, solution to problems.

Very young kids can't tell the difference between reality and fantasy, T.V. and "real life." Older kids can come to see the world as much meaner and more violent than it actually is. This can lead to fearful or aggressive patterns of behavior.

I'd like to see more programs that teach kids about the world and about each other. Programs

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- with longer story lines to (2) help kids extend their attention spans. Fewer commercials and fewer shows like "G.I Joe" that are really program-length commercials.

T.V. has a massive impact on our kids. If the industry can't reform itself, it needs to be regulated.

I favor regulations limiting the amount violence on children's television, and enforcing and encouraging the production of quality educational programming.

Sincerely,

Teri Shaw

May 6, 1993

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Children's TV MM Docket No. 93-48

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To Whom It May Concern:

MAY 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

"The times are a reflection of the media"
and not the other way around.

Please for the sake of ^{all} children (and my

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MAY 5, 1993

CHILDREN'S TV MM DOCKET NO. 93-48
SECRETARY
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
ROOM 222
1919 M ST.
NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

RE: TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

TELEVISION IS APPALLING, ESPECIALLY PROGRAMMING FOR OUR CHILDREN. NO WONDER WE HAVE SUCH VIOLENCE AND LACK OF RESPECT FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OTHERS. IT IS WHAT WE ARE TAUGHT ON TELEVISION. IF WE WERE GIVEN BETTER STANDARDS AND A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE TO OBSERVE, WE MIGHT JUST GROW INTO A BETTER SOCIETY.

THIS IS NOT ONLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING BUT, FOR ALL TELEVISION; THAT IS WITHOUT A SENSE OF VALUE FOR HUMAN LIFE. TELEVISION USING DEGENERATES, CRIMINALS, AND WORTHLESS CHARACTERS AS ROLE MODELS BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONES THAT GET ON TV. SUCH AS, AMY FISHER WHO GETS TO BE FAMOUS BUT, IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING BAD YOU DON'T GET NOTICED AND YOU DON'T GET ON TV. THE BAD PEOPLE GET FAMOUS BY THE TELEVISION MEDIA. TV IS THE MAIN REASON WHY PEOPLE DO NOT CARE FOR OTHERS, HAVE NO MANNERS, NO SOCIAL GRACES, NO SELF WORTH, AND DO HAVE VIOLENT DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR IN SOCIETY.

TV SHOULD BE ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS OF HOW WE CAN HELP STOP VIOLENCE AND CRIME, NOT PROMOTING IT. EDUCATE PEOPLE TO HELP BETTER LIFE. I SEE WHERE WE CAN BE CREATIVE IN

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 4, 1993

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Children's Television
MM Docket No. 93-48
Secretary
FCC
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I read in our local newspaper that the FCC was considering comments on the question of whether tougher rules should be imposed on children's television. I am writing to let you know that my answer, and the answer of virtually everyone I know with and without children, is a resounding "yes". My daughter is 5 years old, and she currently is permitted to watch certain public television shows, with an occasional commercial program under my supervision. Frankly, it is almost impossible to find a commercial television program at any time of day which is suitable for her eyes and ears. Even if the program is appropriate, often the commercials shown during children's television shows depict violence and stereotypical sex roles and cater to the senseless and destructive consumerism which is so rampant in our society.

I implore you to set standards for your industry which will enhance, educate, and enlighten our children. Along with the right to broadcast over public airwaves, the television industry has a responsibility to uphold standards of quality which it seems to have forgotten long ago. My concern about television includes not just children's shows, but all broadcasting, which in large part seems to have sunk below the lowest common denominator. Even my wife and I find very little to watch other than public television. It insults our intelligence and values. Most disturbing is the level of gratuitous violence, which has undoubtedly contributed to the level of violence in our society today.

Please increase and strengthen the regulations requiring educational and informational television for viewing by our nation's children. If our children are taught through all media to respect one another and the planet we live on, to value learning as an essential part of growth as a human being, and to understand and appreciate all sizes, types, shapes and colors of people, perhaps we will have a chance to live in a peaceful and productive world in the future.

Sincerely



Chris Osborn
2127 N. 128
Seattle, WA. 98133

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May 4, 1993

Children's Television
MM Docket No. 93-48
Secretary
FCC
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I read in our local newspaper that the FCC was considering comments on the question of whether tougher rules should be imposed on children's television. I am writing to let you know that my answer, and the answer of virtually everyone I know with and without children, is a resounding "yes". My daughter is 5 years old, and she currently is permitted to watch certain public television shows, with an occasional commercial program under my supervision. Frankly, it is almost impossible to find

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May 3, 1993

Children's TV MM Docket, No. 93-48
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
Room 22
1919 M. St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MAY 11 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear FCC Secretary:

On May 2nd in our local newspaper, I read that you were accepting comments from those concerned about what is being shown on children's TV. Thank you for this opportunity.

In recent years, my husband and I have become appalled at what is being shown on TV. Children's shows are full of inappropriate violence and even immoral sexual innuendo, and this must be regulated more closely. However, children's shows are just a part of the problem - TV in general needs to be addressed. Most children watch TV that is directed toward an older audience.

The bigger problem is that TV in general, almost all of which is viewed by children and teenagers, is more and more becoming a wasteland of sadistic violence, lack of respect toward fellow humans, lack of respect for life, and inappropriate and immoral sexual behavior, including promiscuous, disrespectful and violent sexual activity.

This non-ending parade of depravity "teaches" our children and teenagers, and even adults, to mimic or model this behavior, either through actual physical actions, or by negative changes in thought and attitude. Research has proven that viewing such programming is harmful and affects people greatly. We firmly believe that one of the MAJOR reasons for the problems in society today come from this saturation of the airwaves and the American psyche with such undesirable behavior. Viewing this stuff constantly causes people to focus on the bad side of human nature, and to feel disrespect and contempt for all the good things in life that keep society sane and civilized.

I'll never forget watching a segment of "Freddy's Nightmare" which came on at 10:00 on a Saturday night, on FOX. It showed a teenage boy having sex with his mother, and then stabbing her over and over, very realistically with blood and gore. This is NOT harmless in a psychological sense. What does this do to developing minds, to see a boy rape his mother and then kill her? No wonder so many people are so screwed up.

No offense intended, but why does the FCC not take MORE ACTION to correct this problem? Where is the FCC's power? Why do you even exist if you cannot better regulate what is on TV? We cannot even watch TV with our 9 year old daughter without constantly changing channels or turning off the TV when offensive commercials come on promoting lewd or violent shows. This occurs all the time during FAMILY shows. We do not want our daughter exposed to lewd, disgusting and violent behavior, but it is getting to the point where even family hour shows are saturated with commercials full of sex and violence promoting movies, "In Living Color" type shows, or entertainment and "Hard Copy" type shows. We are not against sex, but it should be shown in a positive, monogamous and healthy light. And violence, including sexual violence, is even worse than lewd, unhealthy sex for the airwaves and our minds.

In the 1950's, social taboos prevented such garbage from being on TV, and society was a much kinder, gentler place to live. Even the monster "horror" shows were more cutesey than realistic - now, we have slasher films which celebrate sadistic mass murdering and killing.

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Back in the 50's, people had more respect for life, for each other, and for values which keep society safe and sane. Now that social taboos are gone, it is even more the FCC's job to monitor the TV waves, since the TV creators won't do it. PLEASE don't cave in to the cries of censorship by a vocal few - it is NOT censorship to return TV to decency. The same people who cry censorship also whine "What is happening to society - why is it so violent and mean-spirited?" They don't see the connection to the garbage on TV, but it is there. Yet they blindly defend its existence. It defies common sense.

It is sad, because TV could be such a POSITIVE influence if the FCC were more effective and did its job better. And the argument of "if you don't like it, turn it off" does not apply anymore - TV is too pervasive in our culture. How can I prevent my daughter from seeing TV at her friends' house? I can't restrict her to my home. And, like I said, even while watching family shows we are bombarded with filth in commercials.

(I also believe that depraved, sadistic slasher type and other psychologically damaging MOVIES should be regulated, but that is another issue - it may be horribly politically incorrect to feel this way, but do we want unlimited freedom to poison our minds, or do we want a safe and respectful society - the majority of Americans want a decent and safe society I would guess, but we are hostages to Hollywood).

Please, FCC, work harder to clean up TV, and I know with every fiber in my being that the effects will be good. Children's TV especially needs to be cleaned up, but don't forget the rest of the programming. It is all viewed by and affects everyone. Let's quit teaching violence and sexual immorality through the TV airwaves. We need to make it a social taboo again to act with violence and depravity, and this cannot be done unless we quit allowing the TV to brainwash us day after day.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Thomas

Tallahassee, FL

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FCC MAIL ROOM

P.O. Box 1114
Ross, California 94957
May 6, 1993Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554Reference: Childrens' TV MM Docket 93-48

From a parent's viewpoint there are four alternatives to addressing the influence of television on a child's development in the present circumstances:

1. No influence--unrestricted access
2. Limitation of channels--unrestricted access
3. Restricted access, assured by locking the television off except under supervised use, or
4. Banning television by removing it from the household.

Our first attempt at controlling the use of television by our younger boy was to limit the channels available. This control is severely limited as even the least amount of channels carry large amounts of "children's programing" that we deem to have little or no educational or social value. We then tried limiting access, but without physically constraining the television set by a lockout or other procedure. Without such physical constraints we found that restricting access to undesirable programs was not effective. We then discontinued our cable connection, effectively eliminating access to television. Our VCR capability remains so that we continue to have access to programs of our choice through rental at the local video store.

We reached the "no television" stage about two years ago. Family life has been significantly improved. Our younger boy reads more, plays the piano, and does well in his studies. For us the "no television" option is the best choice.

A method of providing options to parents to control the quality of material their children view would be to categorize by a rating system the various channels available. The ratings could measure the acceptability for children of programs

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available; films attempt to apply this concept by their own ratings. Then if individual sets had the capability of excluding undesired channels or cable systems offered specific channel selection, parents would have some practical control over the television programs to which their children are exposed.

The above alternative would be a desirable fifth option for parents. For our part we doubt that it would cause us to change from our current highly desirable choice of no television.

Sincerely yours,

Carland C. Nicholson

Carland C. Nicholson

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Rachel Elizabeth Luttio

16441 NE 19th Street

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MAY 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear F.C.C.,

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FCC MAIL ROOM

93-48

5-5-93

I am writing to you regarding children's shows. As the mother of two young children, I am very concerned about kids programming.

The violence is so disturbing ~~as well~~ ^{on kids shows;} also, the non-caring attitude toward others that we see on shows like "The Simpsons." "The Simpsons" is a very popular show. I enjoy watching it myself but usually don't do so because of some of the content.

I would like to see more cartoons + kids shows include real life situations

93-48

May 3, 1993

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MEMORANDUM

MAY 11 1993

MAY 10 1993

TO: ABC, CBS, and NBC

FROM: Peggy Smyly

Peggy Smyly

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FCC MAIL ROOM

SUBJECT: Programs offered to the public and their effect on society, particularly children.

I have never written to the media before, however, as I scanned the movie offerings on all three networks for the week of May 2-9, 1993, I was frankly disgusted. Here was the total choice of movies----

Total Recall
Murder in the Heartland, Parts 1 and 2 (two nights of programming)
Black Widow Murders
Prophet of Evil
Return of Ironside (not too bad usually, but still violent)
Visions of Murder

Isn't this a marvelous selection for parents--which level of violence, murder and mayhem will we show the kids tonight? And we wonder why our society is so violent! Don't you share some sense of responsibility to help our communities become better places to live?

In quest of the almighty rating, the networks are becoming less and less responsible in their programming. If the networks cannot start showing some responsibility for the type of material broadcast, perhaps society will look to censorship as an alternative way to cleaning up the airwaves. I personally would hate to see that happen, but what recourse is there? You all seem to be dropping the ball. I turn more and more to public television as an alternative to the above type trash.

FBI

*Sent to local
affiliates and
our newspaper editor*

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FCC MAIL ROOM

May 5, 1993

Children's TV
MM Docket 93-48, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Attention: MM Docket, Secretary

Dear MM Docket,

I am a mother of a six and three year old child and I am very concerned about the role of television in children's lives today. It seems that in so many households with both parents working and being busy trying to keep

grasp and so they become scared and confused. The only way for them to work out these feelings is through their interaction with other children or adults, their play or their art work. So that now imaginative play and creativity is being interrupted with psychodrama, violence and gore. I also need to mention tactics commercials use to sell toys to children. For example one particular commercial was trying to push mutant Ninja Turtles and ~~therefore~~ had the dolls kicking each other and then laughing and saying "oops, I guess I showed you." Children are also watching prime time television shows that contain materials inappropriate for children viewing. Violent toys should not be advertised such as Alien action figures with attachable jaws.

I would like to suggest a few recommendations and if it requires spending money and more taxes, tough. These minds belong to our children and their future as well as ours. First, the public must be firmly educated on the affects that these television shows and commercials are having on their children. Secondly, panels, committees, etc., must be set up to view and evaluate all television shows, cartoons and commercials that air before 8:00PM. Strict regulations on the value of these shows should be required to be met and enforced before allowing them to air. Thirdly, more educational shows similar to the educational materials aired on channel 12 should be available daily on all stations. For example National Geographic shows, exploring life and other countries as well as shows containing educational information like Mr. Rodgers that helps children get through and understand life. Shows should be available that challenge their intelligence and creativity not their emotions. Shows might be aired that present artistic materials like how to draw or children's plays or cooking for children. Shows containing music and movement exploration like Sesame Street or Barney. I'm sure there would be many people willing to create similar shows containing educational value if there were a demand for it.

In closing, children have a right to be left to be children during childhood not to be forced to grow up quickly because they are bombarded with adult awareness. If this sounds radical, it is. I'm fed up with our children being abused. They don't know enough to fight back. We must protect their rights to be children. I want to help. Call me! Tell me how!

Very concerned,



Pauline Rosa-Martir-Schepperd
856 Cherry St.
Lansdale, PA 19446
(215)855-2284

P.S. Please excuse the wrinkles and mistakes, my children like to help me to type and since this directly involves them, I felt they should have an active part.

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MAY 11 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

20 Ridge Lane, R.D. #3
Hackettstown, N.J. 07840
May 4, 1993

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a Nurse Practitioner and a mother of two children, ages six and five. I have many grave concerns about the content of the current television programs available to our

(2)

media. It is essential that someone be an advocate for our children to assure that they are offered enough educational and entertaining material to engage their fertile minds.

Thank you for your attention to this very important issue for parents today. Please draft some kind of regulations to rein in these producers before it is too late for another generation of youth.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nona Naegle Wolosin".

Nona Naegle Wolosin, M.S.N., R.N., C.
Family Nurse Practitioner

Beth Rohyans.
my family -
Dave Rohyans.
Patricia Lehn.

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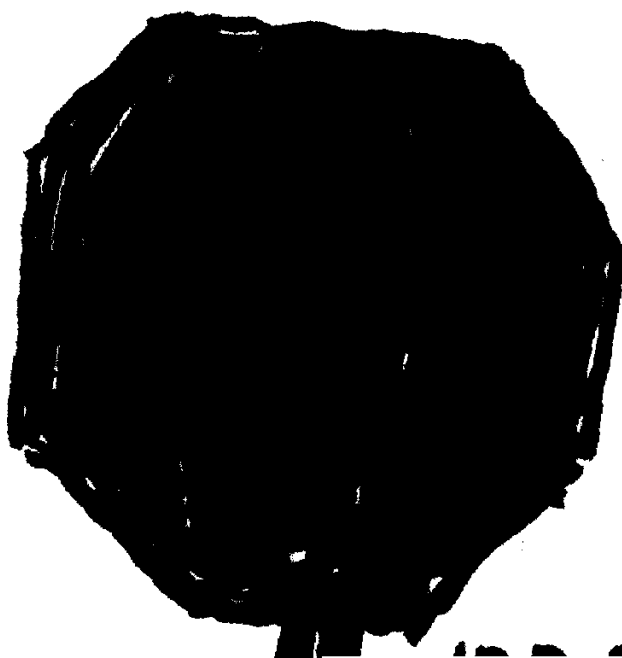
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Kathy Lytle
Barbe Denny
Mark Rohyans

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